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RESPONSE TO 7/17/02 OFFICE ACTION

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Emmanuel A. Rivera (Tel. 509-324-9256; Fax 509-323-8979)

Customer No. 29150

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-30 were originally submitted. Claims 9, 10, and 22 are canceled. Claims 31-38 have been submitted in a previous response. Thus, claims 1-8, 11-21, and 23-38 are currently pending.

Reconsideration and allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

## **Cited References**

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All of the submitted claims were rejected in the Office Action of 07/17/02 based upon three references: US Patent No. 5,943,573 to Wen (hereinafter "Wen"), US Patent No. 4,567,545 to Mettler, Jr. (hereinafter "Mettler"), and U.S. Patent No. 6,049,467 to Tamarkin et al. (hereinafter "Tamarkin").

Wen describes the fabrication of a semiconductor memory device having a typical memory layout in which word lines extend parallel to each other across a